

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1185

**WHEREAS**, Ashley Williams, a seventh-grader at the Girls and Boys Preparatory Academy in Houston, won second place honors at the inaugural African American National Spelling Bee Championships on May 14, 2011, in Houston; and

**WHEREAS**, The goal of the African American National Spelling Bee Championships is to improve the spelling skills of African American middle school students, which in turn helps them to raise their reading level and expand their vocabulary; by preparing for the spelling bee, young people develop confidence and discipline, traits that are necessary to excel academically; and

**WHEREAS**, Students from across Houston competed in two rounds of spelling bees for the opportunity to go to the main event; after advancing through the regional competition, Ashley Williams came in second place at the championships, and she was sponsored for the contest by her teacher, Brenda Upton; and

**WHEREAS**, This notable young Texan has distinguished herself with her hard work, determination, and poise under pressure, and she may indeed look forward to a future that is bright with promise; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 82nd Legislature, hereby congratulate Ashley Williams on placing second at the African American National Spelling Bee Championships and extend to her sincere best wishes for continued success and happiness; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for Ashley Williams as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Ellis

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 26, 2011.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate